

Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) Advisory Committee Status and Activity Report October 1, 2004

The Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) Advisory Committee has met four times since its first meeting in June. The Committee agreed to meet monthly in order to maintain momentum and to aggressively pursue the goals and objectives of the State's justice integration initiative. During these meetings the Committee has made steady forward progress. For ease of review this report is broken down by major activities undertaken at each of the four meetings.

June 22, 2004

The June "kickoff" meeting of the Committee was informational in nature and consisted mainly of presentations by various subject matter experts to help orient the Committee membership with background information dealing with criminal justice information systems integration. This helped to establish a consistent base of knowledge among the Committee members.

David Meyers, Iowa's CJIS Coordinator, reviewed the CJIS Memorandum of Understanding and the Addendum to the CJIS Memorandum of Understanding signed by the Governor and the Chief Justice. These two documents provide the Committee with the mission, scope, and objectives of Iowa's CJIS initiative. Additionally, the Committee reviewed the actions taken by the CJIS board at their first meeting held on April 26, 2004.

Dale Good, Director of Justice Information Technology Services for the National Consortium for Justice Information and Statistics (SEARCH), made a presentation on criminal justice integration. Among other things he discussed the reasons to integrate systems, the benefits of integration, best integration practices, the founding principles of integration, governing principles and the need for strong governance, and integration successes as well as "horror stories" related to the failure to integrate systems.

David Meyers, Iowa's CJIS Coordinator, reviewed what actions Iowa has taken so far towards criminal justice integration. Those actions include such things as the establishment of a formal governance structure to oversee the CJIS initiative, the successful implementation of pilot projects, completion of a comprehensive analysis of the business rules of the adult and juvenile systems through exchange modeling projects, pursuing and receiving non-state CJIS funds in excess of \$2.0 million, completion of successful small-scale information sharing projects and the planning, education, and outreach efforts that have occurred.

Larry Murphy, Director of Information Technology for the Judicial Branch, provided a comprehensive overview of the Iowa Court Information System (ICIS). This included a history of ICIS, the current information sharing interfaces between ICIS and other agencies, and the type and amount of information contained in ICIS.

John Baldwin, Deputy Director of the Iowa Department of Corrections, provided a review of Iowa's Corrections Offender Network (ICON). This included an overview of

the Department of Corrections, the mission of ICON, the goals of ICON, and the type of information contained in ICON.

Jan Visser, National Crime Information Center Control Terminal Officer with the Iowa Department of Public Safety provided a review of the Iowa On-line Warrants and Articles System (IOWA System). This included an overview of the number of IOWA Systems users, the type of information contained in the IOWA System, the messaging capabilities of the IOWA System, the other types of services provided by the IOWA System and the current data sharing interfaces between the IOWA System and other agencies.

Richard Moore, Administrator of the Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning of the Iowa Department of Human Rights provided an overview of the State's Enterprise Data Warehouse and its valuable use as a statistical analysis, decision-making and policy development resource.

The background information provided during these informational sessions provided a solid framework for future issues to be addressed at subsequent meetings.

July 21, 2004

The Committee meeting in July continued to consist of informational presentations but also provided a forum for Committee members to share their specific thoughts and ideas concerning justice integration.

David Usery, Chief Executive Officer of URL Integration, gave a presentation on Iowa's Adult Exchange Modeling Project and Iowa's Juvenile Exchange Modeling Project. These two projects mapped out the flow of justice information throughout the adult and juvenile systems. The Committee heard about what exchange modeling is, why to do it, and what the benefits of integration are. Additionally, there was a detailed discussion regarding the findings of the exchange modeling projects and recommendations concerning some specific courses of action or potential "next steps" for Iowa to take. These recommendations were well received by the Committee and a more detailed discussion of them is planned for the future.

Sgt. Scott Locker, Polk County Sheriff's Office, gave a presentation on local law enforcement's perspective on integration. Sgt. Locker mentioned that integration definitely needs to be a two way communication flow and discussed XML and Web Services as potential tools for integration. Several integration projects, including Kaleidoscope and COPLINK, were discussed.

Sheriff Anderson, Polk County Sheriff's Office, gave a presentation on some local law enforcement initiatives including the use of mobile data control terminals in squad cars, the use of COPLINK to query other jurisdictions for investigative purposes, and the "fusion center" concept as a way to collect information for investigation and analysis.

Chief Doug Strike, Iowa Falls Police Department, gave a presentation regarding what some local law enforcement jurisdictions would like to see happen related to integration. Specifically, the need to be able to determine who is in jail and what warrants have been issued. Additionally, having digital photos available and having the

mobile data control terminals integrated with global positioning systems would be very beneficial.

The Committee went “around-the-table” with committee members providing their thoughts and comments on integration ideas, questions, thoughts, ideas, successes or failures. Some of the comments include: There are national integration efforts underway and these efforts may provide the opportunity for federal funding for Iowa’s initiative. There will no doubt be turf issues that will need to be broken down and it may take legislation to do so. We need to be careful to satisfy legal requirements, including privacy issues, as well as gather data and statistics. Additionally, victims need to be accounted for in an integrated system. The business rules, not technology, should drive the process. There needs to be a good discussion involving standards and processes. Identifying resources in order to accomplish integration is a major issue. Documentation is critical to keeping everyone on the same page as Committee membership changes. Warrants and fingerprints are huge issues that need to be addressed from an integration standpoint. County Attorney participation and support is critical to success. The Committee intends to keep these issues in mind as they move forward with recommendations to the Board.

August 17, 2004

The Committee meeting in August provided the Committee with an understanding of the financial resources that have been expended or are still available for expenditure on CJIS projects. Additionally, the Committee entertained a request for financial resources for a common case management system for county attorneys.

David Meyers, Iowa’s CJIS Coordinator, gave a presentation on the status of CJIS funds, which included both past expenditures as well as current unspent balances. Of the \$2.1 million originally available, approximately \$670,000 remains unobligated. These funds are targeted for use in three major areas: case management for county attorneys, electronic transmission of pre-sentence investigations, and the development of a statewide criminal justice integration plan.

Zetta Pilch, Project Manager for the County Attorney Case Management Project, gave an extensive overview of their project including what they have already accomplished and where they intend to go. There are approximately 20 counties involved who would like to pilot the use of a common case management system/software among themselves. Zetta requested that the Committee commit state resources toward the project to allow them to move forward and prepare for eventual integration. A lengthy question and answer period followed the presentation and the Committee deferred any decision on the funding request until the September meeting.

Sheriff Anderson appointed a budget sub-committee to develop a budget request/recommendation to be considered by the full Committee at the September meeting. This budget recommendation is intended to contain a funding request to provide for the ongoing administrative, programmatic, and support costs related to the operations of the Committee as well as the CJIS Board.

September 21, 2004

The Committee meeting in September focused on several important funding issues. These issues were critical to moving the justice integration initiative forward.

Leesa McNeil, District Court Administrator, Third Judicial District, presented a CJIS budget recommendation as developed by the CJIS budget sub-committee. The recommendation was that \$142,112 be appropriated by the Legislature from the general fund to the Department of Human Rights, Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning, for the oversight and administration of the state's justice integration initiative. This amount includes funding for the salary and benefits of the state's CJIS coordinator as well as maintenance, travel, and consulting costs. The Committee unanimously agreed to forward this budget recommendation to the Board for their consideration. The Committee's final recommendation is for the Board to sponsor and transmit, in a manner that the Board deems most appropriate, a general fund appropriation request of \$142,112 to the Legislature for an appropriation to the Department of Human Rights, Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning for the oversight and administration of the state's justice integration initiative.

The Committee engaged in a lengthy discussion regarding the information and funding request provided at the last Committee meeting by Zetta Pilch, Project Manager of the Iowa County Attorney's Case Management Project team. The Committee agreed to request that the Department of Administrative Services obligate federal Byrne grant funds in the amount of approximately \$285,000 to sub-contract with the Iowa County Attorney's Case Management Project team for the implementation of a pilot project involving a common case management system for Iowa's county attorneys. Additionally, the Committee agreed to the establishment of a sub-committee to develop specific sub-contracting language and requirements to be included in the final sub-contracting grant agreement between the Department of Administrative Services and the Iowa County Attorney's Case Management Project team.

David Meyers, Iowa's CJIS Coordinator, presented background information about what other states around the country have done regarding the development of Requests for Information (RFI's) and Requests for Proposals (RFP's) for the development of statewide criminal justice information system integration plans. Iowa has received \$233,270 in federal funds to develop such a plan. Several RFP's from such states as North Dakota, Washington, Oklahoma, and New Jersey were distributed and discussed. Additionally, several other resources that may be of assistance as the Committee develops Iowa's RFP were identified. The Committee agreed to establish a sub-committee to develop an initial draft of a Request for Proposal (RFP) to be released to solicit proposals for the development of a statewide, criminal justice information system integration plan.

Overview

In summary, the Committee has made significant progress in the last four months. In addition to receiving detailed educational and background information regarding justice information systems integration around the county as well as in Iowa, the Committee's

most notable achievements include the development of a CJIS budget recommendation for the Board to consider, providing funding for a pilot project for a common case management system for Iowa's county attorneys, and beginning the development of a Request for Proposal for a statewide criminal justice integration plan. These steps have provided a solid foundation for future Committee activities.

The next Committee status and activity report will be provided on or before April 1, 2005.